AL MESSAGE — TOP SECRET — NAVY DEPARTMENT

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DATE	TOR	ROUTED BY	CHECKED
25 NOV 1958	0643Z/25 NOV	BLATT	DB/ Brock

PRECEDENCE

(ACT)	(INFO)
☐ FLASH	☐
☐ EMERGENCY	☐
☐ OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	☐
☐ PRIORITY	☐
☐ ROUTINE	☐
☐ DEFERRED	☐

3013 NO — 250317Z NOV 1958 (DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT)) — 3616

FROM: CINCPAC

TO: CNO

INFO: JCS//COMUSTDC//CINCPACAF//CINCPACFLT//CINCUSARPAC

AS REFLECTED IN CNO 112047Z FULLY REALIZE THAT THERE ARE MANY ASPECTS OF TAIWAN SITUATION IN ADDITION TO MILITARY FACTORS. RECOGNIZING FACTS OF LIFE, I FEEL STRONGLY THAT MILITARY CONSIDERATIONS MUST CONTINUOUSLY STIRRED INTO POT ALONG WITH POLITICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS THAT ARE INFLUENCING OUR POLICY WITH REGARD TO OPERATIONS IN TAIWAN AREA.

WITH REGARD TO OUR POLICY OF NON-PROVOCATION, GRC AIRCRAFT HAVE BEEN OVERFLYING MAINLAND FOR YEARS. THESE OVERFLIGHTS HAVE BEEN MADE WITH THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE US TO OBVIATE NECESSITY FOR USE US FORCES TO PROCURE VITAL INTELLIGENCE. WE HAVE RECENTLY TURNED OVER 2 RB-57D TO THEM FOR THIS PURPOSE. ADDITIONALLY, RF-101 AND 100'S ARE PROGRAMMED IN NEAR FUTURE.

MILITARY IMPORTANCE OF PHOTO RECON IS EQUALLY AS GREAT NOW AS IN PAST FOR FOLLOWING REASONS: (1) BEFORE FURTHER PHASE DOWN OF US FORCES IN TAIWAN AREA THERE IS VITAL REQUIREMENT FOR CONFIRMATION OF INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION AS TO POSSIBLE BUILD UP CHICOM FORCES OPPOSITE 104

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TAIWAN. (2) INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION AS TO PRESENCE NEWER HIGH PERFORMANCE AIRCRAFT IN CHINA REQUIRES CONFIRMATION. (3) URGENT REQUIREMENT FOR PHOTO RECON CHICOM INSTALLATIONS IN KINMEN AREA IN ORDER TO BE PREPARED FULLY FOR RESUMPTION HEAVY ARTILLERY BOMBARDMENT. REQUEST AUTHORITY EXECUTE RB-57D MISSION TO FULFILL HIGHEST PRIORITY INTELLIGENCE REQUIREMENTS AS A TRIALBALLOON. THIS, IF SUCCESSFUL, TO BE FOLLOWED BY OTHER MISSIONS. DO NOT CONTEMPLATE REQUESTING APPROVAL ANY FIGHTER RECCE OVERFLIGHTS AT THIS TIME.

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